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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: Shiho Wang et al.

Group Art Unit 1712

Appl. No.

: 09/974,725

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: October 9, 2001

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: SOL-GEL PROCESS UTILIZING

REDUCED MIXING TEMPERATURES

Examiner

: Daniel S. Metzmaier

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO MARCH 16, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

In response to the March 16, 2004 Office Action, Applicants request the Examiner to reconsider the above-identified patent application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims: Begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks: Begin on page 7 of this Response.